FAME

LADY GAGA

COVER B

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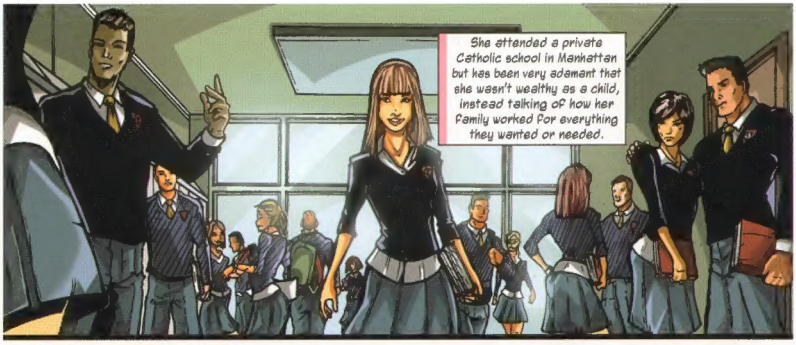
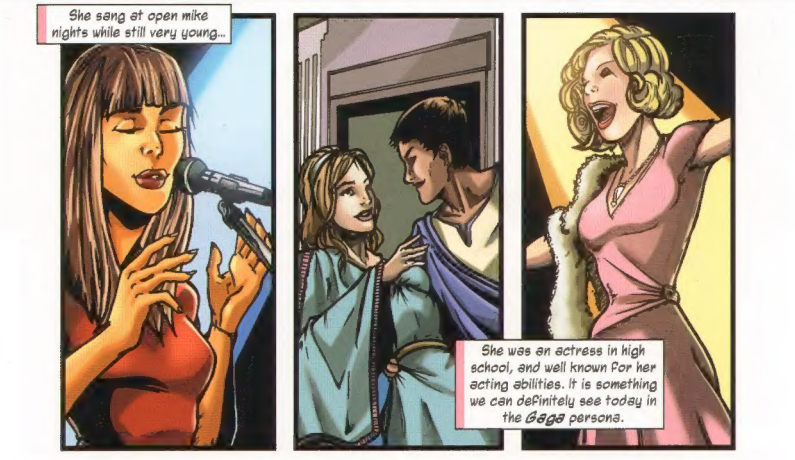
All we hear is Lady Gaga. Lady Blah Blah. She's all over the place. She's a smash. She's a hit. But who is she?

She was born Stefani Joanne Angelina Germanotta on March 28, 1986 to parents Cynthia Bissett and Joseph Germanotta.
Music, obviously, was a huge part of her childhood. She learned piano at age four...
She even wrote her first ballad at 13 years old. How many of us can say that they accomplished something like that at age 13?

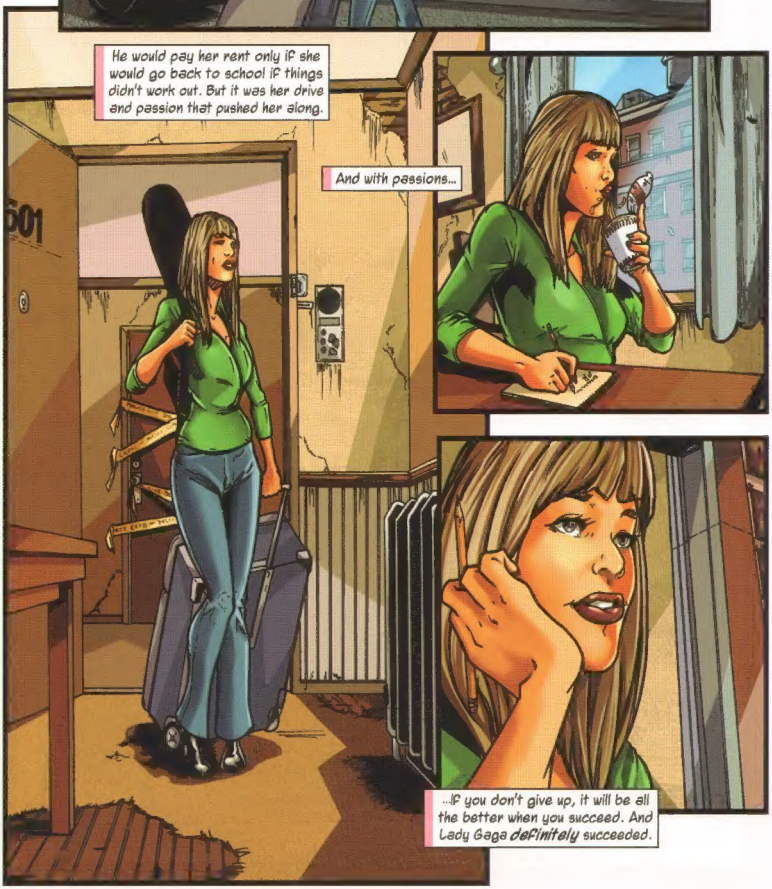

She attended a private Catholic school in Manhattan but has been very adamant that she wasn't wealthy as a child, instead talking of how her family worked for everything they wanted or needed.


She sang at open mike nights while still very young...
She was an actress in high school, and well known for her acting abilities. It is something we can definitely see today in the Gaga persona.

But high school wasn't all fun and games. She was different and people made her feel like a freak for who she was. At least, that's how she felt. Others might not agree with that history, but to Gaga, that's the truth.

Things changed from then on.
MEGA-MART
Tisch
At 17, she was admitted to NYU and the Tisch School of the Arts, a feat that proves her dedication to her craft and her abilities.
She studied music and her songwriting became more advanced...
She worked hard, and felt like she was more creative than others, that she wanted it more. But school stopped appealing to her and she withdrew...

...And began to focus on her musical career. But she made a promise to her father.


He would pay her rent only if she would go back to school if things didn't work out. But it was her drive and passion that pushed her along.
And with passions...
...if you don't give up, it will be all the better when you succeed. And Lady Gaga definitely succeeded.

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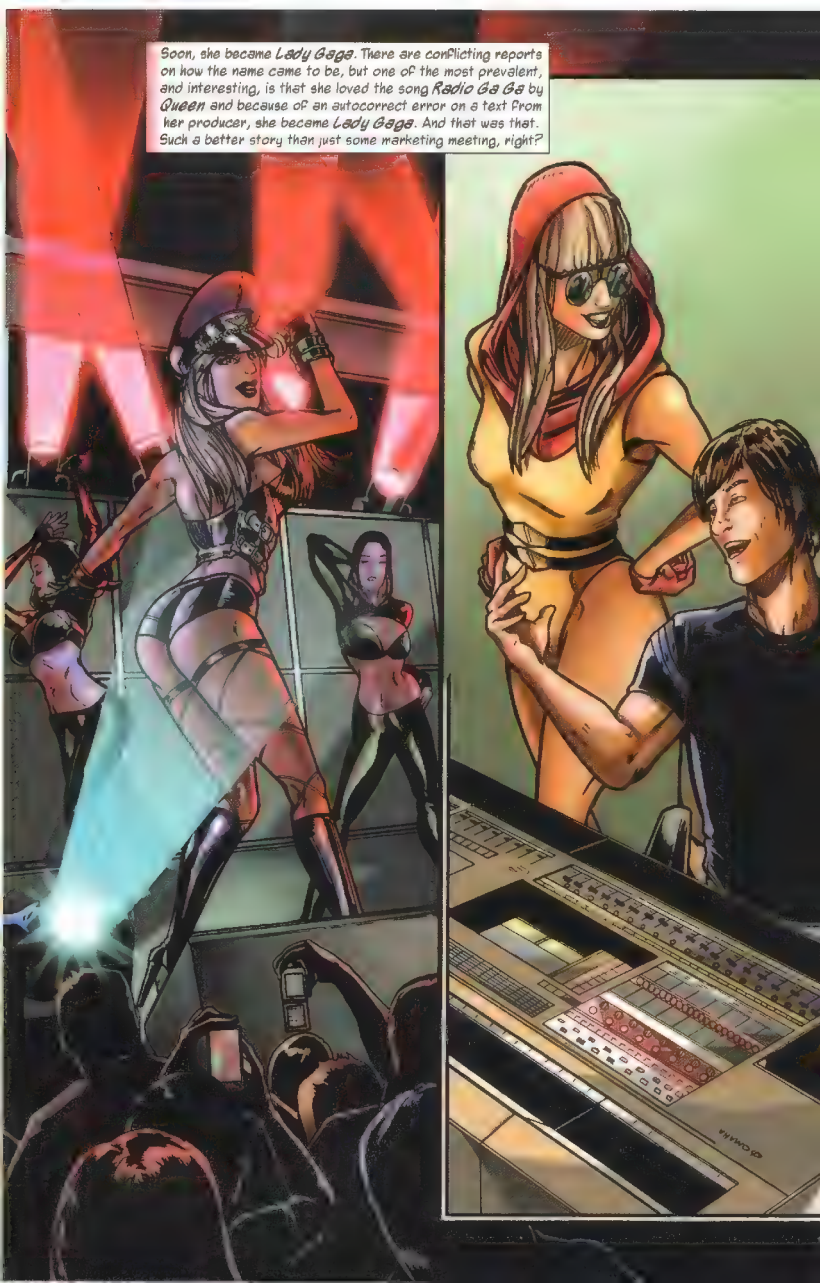
At 19 years old, she singed with Def Jam Records after being discovered and heard a few feet from the CEO's office.
Def Jam
It didn't last, and in 3 months she was dropped, but managed to get together with producer RedOne.
She produced her first song called Boys Boys Boys with RedOne and from there, her career was moving forward.

She found a new apartment...
...Worked on some more music, this time with Grandmaster Melle Mel for a children's book....
And then, she started the Stefani Germanotta Band with classmates and friends from NYU, and recorded their first EP. It wasn't all glory as they became a part of the club scene.
She started experimenting with drugs and life changed in a strange way. Her father couldn't be around her for a time because of this.


Soon, she became Lady Gaga. There are conflicting reports on how the name came to be, but one of the most prevalent, and interesting, is that she loved the song Radio Ga Ga by Queen and because of an autocorrect error on a text from her producer, she became Lady Gaga. And that was that. Such a better story than just some marketing meeting, right?

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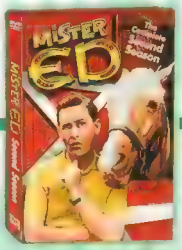

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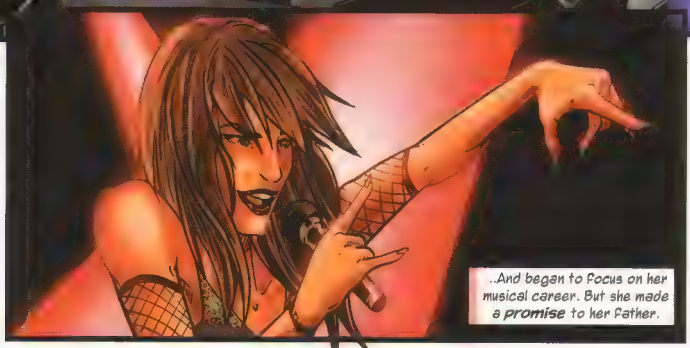
Before striking it big on the music scene, she performed in New York's club scene with **Lady Starlight** as performance art with the **Lady Gaga** and the **Starlight Revue**.



..And began to focus on her musical career. But she made a **promise** to her father.

She and Starlight played Lollapalooza in 2007 and the crowd went wild.
Fusari, her recording partner who helped her come up with the name Lady Gaga, sent the songs they worked on to another producer and record executive. From there...
...She was quickly signed to a record deal with Streamline Records, part of Interscope. This was it. Here she was. Lady Gaga had arrived.

NEW KIDS ON THE BLOCK
LADY GAGA
She struck a deal writing songs for people like Britney Spears, New Kids on the Block and others. She was writing her own songs as well, and starting to make a name for herself. Pretty soon, everywhere you looked, there would be Lady Gaga.
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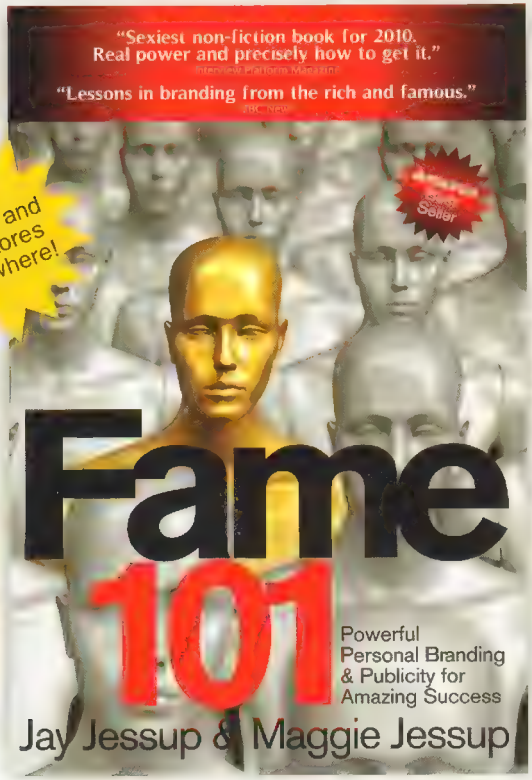
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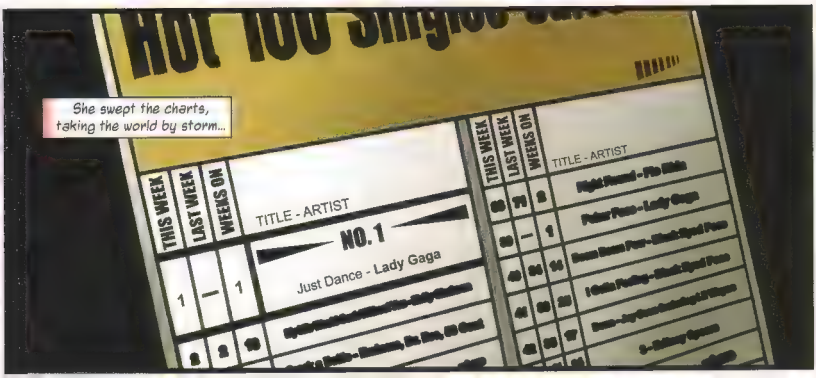
She became one of the go to writers in pop music, working all over the industry and continuing on her own stuff as well.

Her own music became The Fame, released in 2008 to critical praise and acclaim from the public as well.


She swept the charts, taking the world by storm...
THIS WEEK
LAST WEEK
WEEKS ON
TITLE - ARTIST
NO.1
Just Dance - Lady Gaga

Her first single, ***Just Dance***, became not only a chart-topper, but a hit music video and a phenomenon of its own.

And it was a huge song, up until her second single dropped...

...***Poker Face***. She was noticed almost immediately all over the world, and her album was playing everywhere she went.

The song would go on to win her Grammys for Song of the Year, Record of the Year, Best Electronic/Dance Album and just swept the world.

She was all over the place, and to most, seemed to have popped up over night. It was surprising, and her newFound Fame...
...Allowed her Fashion sense to be noticed by people and not questioned. She was a pop superstar, winning MTV Video Music Awards, topping the charts all over the world, and finding her own niche...
...She could wear whatever she wanted, and people would talk about it. It was part of her persona as Lady Gaga, and we were all along for the ride.
She dropped her album the Fame Monster and went on tour in its support, and even released another hit single, Bad Romance. She rocketed to the top...
...Even performing for the Queen!

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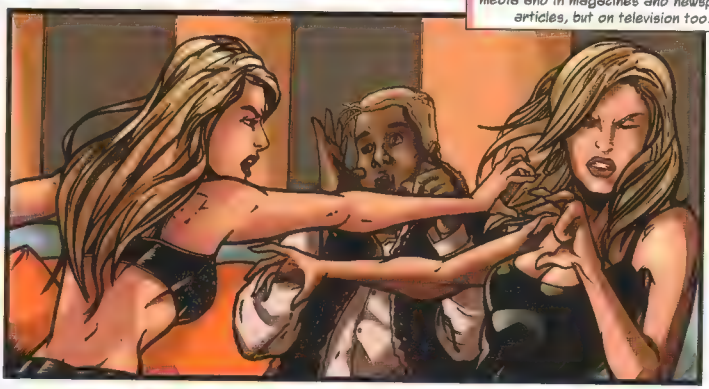
Beyond the music, she is not just some flash-in-the-pan superstar. She has a message. She has appeared on the Ellen Degeneres Show, praising Ellen for being an inspiration to both women and the gay community. Gaga is very outspoken about her support of gay rights...
..And equality for everyone.
GA-GA
But it was her music and her fashion sense that first got her noticed, and gave her the ability to speak out and speak her mind.
And in her vocalizing about herself and her thoughts on the world, she's been open about her musical influences, from Queen down the line to Britney Spears. She's a superstar who is very open about who she is and where she's come from...

...And even enjoys when comparisons are made between her and other superstars like Christina Aguilera. She doesn't hide from them, she takes them head-on, just like the critics..
...And like the rumors or urban legends. When asked by Barbara Walters about her androgyny and the possibility of her being intersex, she took it head on, dismissing the claim and acknowledging that she revels in the androgyny on-stage and again, revels in the questions.
Like I said, she's all over the place, and this is just the tip of the iceberg.
THE 100 MOST INFLUENTIAL PEOPLE IN THE WORLD

She took the world by storm and she's now not only seen all over the news media and in magazines and newspaper articles, but on television too.



She's been on *Saturday Night Live* and there's even been an episode of *Glee* devoted to her music.

But no matter what she does, whether it be collaborations with Beyonce or her outlandish outfits or just going on television, we can't stop talking about her.
LARRY KING LIVE
Entertainment Weekly
It's part of the Fame Monster she's talked about and sung about. We constantly want to know what she's doing...

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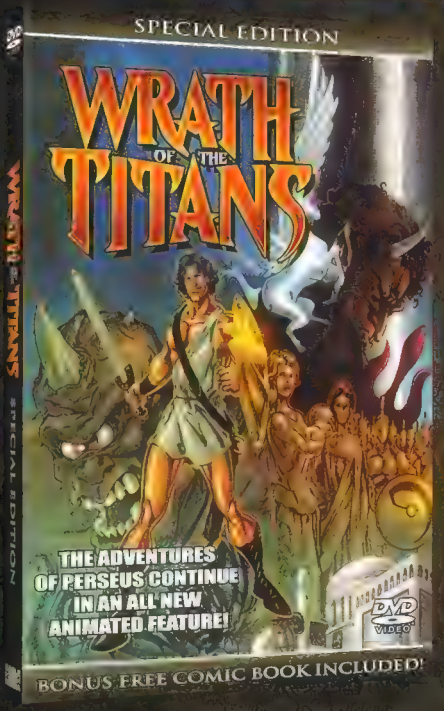
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...And the news media follows her everywhere.
We dissect her clothing more than her music, and even argue about the outfits on television, determining if she's a fashion icon as well as a music icon.
It's all part of the Lady Gaga persona.

As is the Haus of Gaga, not to be confused with the House of Gaga, her own music publishing company. The Haus is her collective of artists, performers and back-stage presence that help her become Lady Gaga.
They build the sets, do the make-up, make the films that play during the performances; they all play a role in the persona of Gaga. Made up of close friends and new friends, they have all contributed to who Stefani is today.

She's taken the world by storm. She's a superstar. And all we hear is Lady Gaga. In spite of that, in spite of her being everywhere, people just can't seem to get enough of her. And that will be her true claim to Fame: her staying power.
THE END

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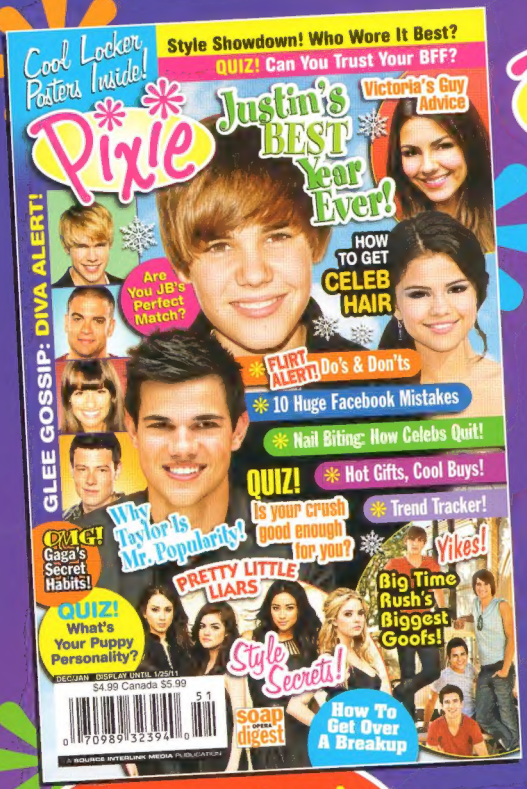
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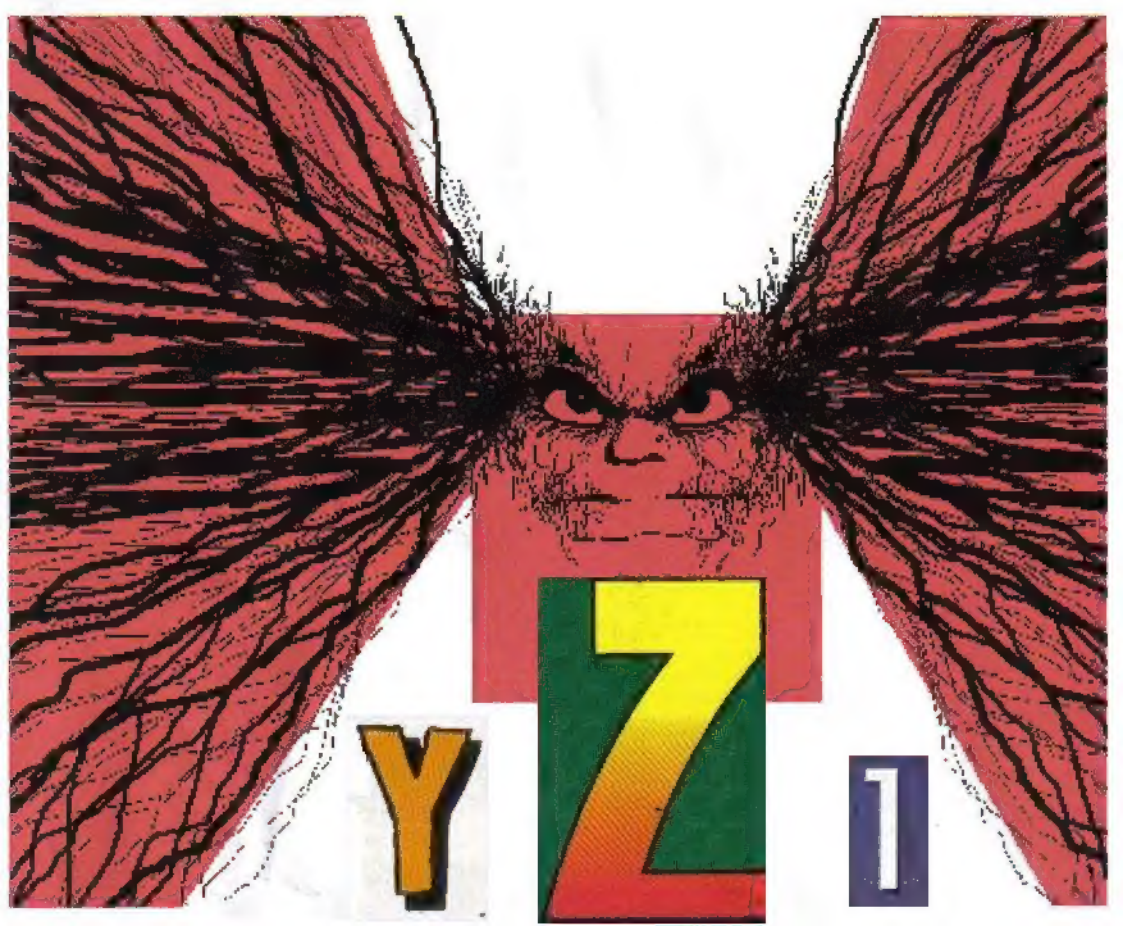
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